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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-2 (canceled).

3 (currently amended). ~~The nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard as claimed in claim 1 selected from:~~

~~2-[2-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-chloroethyl)-4,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2[2-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-bromoethyl)-4,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate~~,~~

~~2-((2-Iodoethyl) 2-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroaniline)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-{[(2-hydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

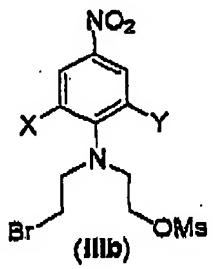
~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-{[(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-[(2-Bromoethyl)-2-({[3-(4-morpholinyl)propyl]amino}carbonyl)-4,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~Methyl 3-{[2-((2-chloroethyl){2-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]ethyl}amino)-3,5-dinitrobenzoyl]amino}propanoate, and~~

~~Methyl 3-[[2-((2-bromoethyl)(2-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]ethyl}amino)-3,5-dinitrobenzoyl]amino)propanoate.~~

4 (currently amended). ~~The~~ A nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard ~~as claimed in claim 1 selected from a compound~~ represented by formula (IIIb)



(IIIb)

wherein ~~X, Y, are as defined in claim 1~~

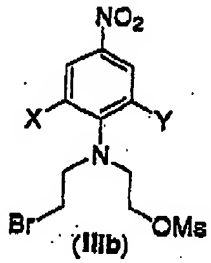
X represents one of the groups NO_2, CN, or SO_2R^1, where R^1 represents a C_{1-6}-alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups;

Y represents one of the groups OR^2, $NHCOR^2$, $CONHR^2CO_2R^3$, $CONHR^2$morpholide, $CONHR^2$, $CONR^2R^3$, $CONHOR^2$, $CONHSO_2R^2$, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^2 or $SO_2NR^2R^3$ wherein each R^2 and R^3 independently represent a H, C_{1-6}- alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkylene optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and A and B each independently represent halogen, OSO_2R^4, OSO_2NH_2, OSO_2NHR^4 or $OSO_2NR^4R^5$, wherein each R^4 and R^5 independently represent a C_{1-6}-alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups;

and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof.

5-7 (canceled).

8 (currently amended). ~~The~~ A method of preparing a nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard represented by formula (IIIb) as claimed in claim 4



(IIIb)

wherein ~~X, Y, are as defined in claim 1 for a compound of Formula (IIb)~~

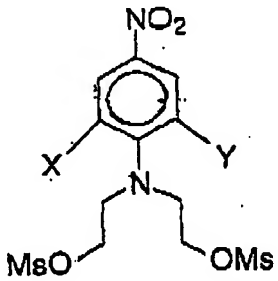
X represents one of the groups NO_2, CN, or SO_2R^1, where R^1 represents a C_{1-6}-alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups;

Y represents one of the groups OR^2, $NHCOR^2$, $CONHR^2CO_2R^3$, $CONHR^2$morpholide, $CONHR^2$, $CONR^2R^3$, $CONHOR^2$, $CONHSO_2R^2$, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^2 or $SO_2NR^2R^3$ wherein each R^2 and R^3 independently represent a H, C_{1-6}- alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkylene optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and A and B each independently represent halogen, OSO_2R^4, OSO_2NH_2, OSO_2NHR^4 or $OSO_2NR^4R^5$, wherein each R^4 and R^5 independently represent a C_{1-6}-

alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups;

and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof;

the method ~~including~~ comprising the step of reacting a compound of formula



with an amount of LiBr in a polar solvent to give a bromo mesylate of formula (IIIb).

9 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~6~~ 8 wherein the polar solvent is selected from the group consisting of acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, ethyl acetate, triethylamine, acetone and mixtures thereof.

10 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~6~~ 8 wherein the alkali metal halide is selected from ~~one or more of the following;~~ the group consisting of LiCl, LiBr, NaI and NaBr.

11 (currently amended). A compound of formula ~~(IIb)~~ (IIIb) obtained by any one of the methods as claimed in claim ~~6~~ 8.

12-15 (canceled).

16 (currently amended). A method of cell ablation therapy utilising at least one endogenous nitroreductase enzyme, ~~wherein~~ the method ~~includes~~ comprising the step of administering a compound of Formula ~~(IIb)~~ (IIIb) as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 4 in a "therapeutically effective amount" to ablate tumour cells in tissue in a subject, wherein said tissue expresses at least one endogenous nitroreductase enzyme, to activate the compound of formula ~~(IIb)~~ (IIIb) into an active metabolite to ablate the tumor cells.

17-18 (canceled).

19 (currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition ~~including~~ comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula ~~(IIb)~~ (IIIb) as defined in claim ~~1~~ 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, adjuvant, carrier, buffer or stabiliser.

20-21 (canceled).